

on 23rd September with a total of 291.

It was a rather poor year for *Laothoë populi* L., only 17, finishing on 12th August.

There were 165 *Leucania pallens* L. from 4th June to 18th July and 685 from 29th July to 23rd September.

We had no late brood of *O. sambucaria* L., *E. pulchellata* Steph., *C. morpheus* Hufn., and no *P. moneta* F. which is very occasional here. I found no species with an unexpected second brood.

*C. nupta* L. is only occasional and turned up on 12th August and 3rd September — nothing exceptional, but *A. pyramidea* L. began on 13th July which was early and numbers were up, *A. berbera* Rungs. began on 12th July which was early and numbers were high. *A. tragopogonis* L. was also early on 12th July. *C. lutea* Ström. was normal on 16th September. Other early emergences of autumn species were *Atethmia xerampelina* Hübn. (20th August), *Agrochola macilenta* Hübn. (26th August — very early as it usually waits till October), *Dichonia aprilina* L. (24th September), *Agrochola lota* Cl. (27th September), and *Colotois pennaria* L. (27th September).

I had 55 species in which the last capture was considerably later than usual. Presumably the drought conditions inhibited any desire to remain in the pupa. Will this result in an early emergence season next year or will the hard winter adjust the cycle?

One wonders what will be the effect of the drought on next year's numbers. Most birch trees were in yellow leaf by the end of August, and although there was subsequently a fresh growth when the rain came, many birch feeding larvae must have died. Beech suffered similarly. Lichens were particularly dried up. I had hoped to breed some *Eilema deplana* Esp. because I have never taken a type male at Minstead and only two type females. Two females (vars.) obliged with a few ova but I was unable to find fresh lichen which the larvae were able to eat. Perhaps, too, there is some significance in the fact that bluetits have been noticeably scarcer this winter. Could this be due to shortage of larvae during the drought?

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PARECTOPA ONONIDIS ZELL. IN S.E. LONDON. — On 7th July, 1976 my first specimen of the above moth made its appearance at m.v. light here. This very local and somewhat elusive Gracillariid is not included in "Woolwich Surveys" (1909) — the early list of the fauna of this district. Though so small and narrow, the gleaming silver-white marks on a dark ground give it an exceedingly neat and bright aspect in a good light. About 15 years ago, on a visit to Riddlesdown, Surrey, with the late lamented Stanley Wakely, we searched for the mines or spinings of *P. ononidis* on clover at a spot where he had previously found them, but in vain. — A. A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London, SE7 8QG.